



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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For Immediate Release

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Stewardship Card Explains The Benefits of Dead Wood

Residents sometimes ask the Fairfax County Park Authority to remove dead wood from our parklands. However, snags, logs and dead woody debris, or simply dead wood are natural occurrences in mature forests and a sign of health and vigor. Since they provide habitat for animals as well, unless dead wood poses a danger to the public, we leave it in place.

Did you know that collecting firewood on park land is prohibited by regulation? Are you aware that dumping brush and leaves in the forest can rob tree roots of needed oxygen and moisture, eventually killing the tree? What might be unsightly to humans is actually very beneficial for the parts of the forest that we value. Find out about the many benefits of dead wood in our latest Stewardship publication available at nature centers, Park Authority headquarters or online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resources/stewardshipbrochures.htm>. You'll find a series of informational brochures available including materials on invasive backyard plants, native plants, spiders and snakes, wildlife conflicts and pets in the park, to name just a few.

These informational brochures are funded in part by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors as part of their adopted 20-year environmental vision. For more information call the Resource Management Division at 703-324-8674.

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Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all county programs, services and activities and will provide reasonable accommodations upon request. To request special accommodations, call 703-324-8563 or TTY 703-803-3354. Please allow ten working days in advance of events in order to make the necessary arrangements.